

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 04172 221846Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

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USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 4172

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJ: UNFICYP EXTENSION

REF: A. STATE 253478; B. ATHENS 829#. C. ANKARA 9018;
D. NICOSIA 3984; E. NICOSIA 4050

1. GOC ATTITUDE TOWARDS UNFICYP RENEWAL IS SURROUNDED BY MANY IMPONDERABLES. EMBASSY CERTAIN WE COULD OBTAIN CLERIDES' SUPPORT FOR SIMPLE MANDATE EXTENSION; WHETHER HE WILL BE CALLING SHOTS ON DECEMBER 15 IS ANOTHER MATTER AND SHOULD BE CLARIFIED WITHIN NEXT WEEK. AS DEPT NOTES (REF A), MAKARIOS WILL IN ALL LIKELIHOOD BE BACK ON ISLAND BY DEC 15 AND HIS DESIRE TO "INTERNATIONALIZE" CYPRUS PROBLEM WOULD CAUSE DIFFICULTIES.

2. FROM SYG REP WECKMANN, WE UNDERSTAND THAT MAKARIOS' FORMER FONMIN KYPRIANOU HAS BEEN CAMPAIGNING IN EFFORT TO GET SECURITY COUNCIL ENGAGE IN SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE AIMED AT IMPLEMENTING UNGA
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 04172 221846Z

CYPRUS RESOLUTION. SPECIFICALLY, KYPRIANOU REPORTEDLY WANTS SC

TO SET TIMETABLE FOR TURKISH TROOP WITHDRAWALS AND GREEK REFUGEE RETURN. ACCORDING TO OTHER SOURCES, IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT MAKARIOS/KYPRIANOU WILL SEEK TO EXPAND NUMBER OF TROOP CONTRIBUTING STATES TO INCLUDE WARSAW PACT REPRESENTATIVES. (ON AEROFLOT'S CYPRUS AIRWAYS OFFER, MAKARIOS SUPPORTERS HAVE BEEN URGING THAT ONE MAJOR ADVANTAGE WOULD BE TURKISH HESITANCY TO FIRE AT BLOC FLAG AIRLINE. SAME REASONING COULD BE APPLIED TO UNFICYP.) FURTHER, MAKARIOS' MEN MAY PRESS FOR A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS CYPRUS INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH COMMUNITIES, GOG, GOT, FIVE PERMANENT SC MEMBERS AND ONE PROMINENT NON-ALIGNED (REF E).

3. DESPITE ABOVE POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES FACT IS THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS NEED UNFICYP MORE TODAY THAN EVER BEFORE, AND THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO PUSH RHETORIC TO POINT WHERE IT COULD ENDANGER RENEWAL OF MANDATE. IN TALKS WITH CYPRIOTS HERE AND IN NEW YORK, AS WELL AS WITH GOG, WE SHOULD STRESS THAT AN ATTEMPT TO INVOLVE SECURITY COUNCIL IN SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE OF INTRICACIES OF CYPRUS PROBLEM COULD LEAD SOME MEMBERS TO QUESTION UTILITY OF CONTINUING UNFICYP'S OPERATIONS.

4. TURK CYPRIOTS COULD POSE LARGER PROBLEM. FOR PAST FEW YEARS, TURK CYPRIOTS HAVE BEEN UNHAPPY WITH UNFICYP PERFORMANCE AND, AS RESULT TURKISH INVASION, NOW HAVE EVEN LESS NEED FOR ITS PROTECTION. WITHIN TURK-CONTROLLED AREA, UNFICYP IS GENERALLY PERCEIVED AS NUISANCE. IF THERE LITTLE OR NO PROGRESS TOWARDS ACCEPTANCE BI-ZONAL CONCEPT DURING INTERIM PERIOD IT IS POSSIBLE TURKS WILL AGAIN SEEK UNFICYP'S REMOVAL TO CEASEFIRE LINE IN ORDER REINFORCE THEIR POSITION ON INEVITABILITY OF COMMUNAL SEPARATION.

5. ADDITIONALLY, WE HAVE RECEIVED FURTHER INDICATION THAT TURK CYPRIOTS WILL SEEK CHANGE IN SECURITY COUNCIL WORDING RE INVITATION FOR CONTINUANCE OF UNFICYP (REF D). DENKTASH WANTS INVITATION TO ORIGINATE EITHER FROM "PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC" OR FROM "TWO COMMUNITIES". AT PRESENT, HE IS TOTALLY UNWILLING ACCEPT REFERENCE TO GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS. IF HE IS REFLECTING A GOT POSITION ON THIS, WHICH WE BELIEVE TO BE THE CASE, THERE COULD BE DIFFICULTY. AS A GENERAL MATTER, HE WILL FOLLOW GOT LEAD. IF ANKARA AGREES ACCEPT MANDATE RENEWAL WITH

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PAGE 03 NICOSI 04172 221846Z

MINIMUM FUSS, DENKTASH WILL UNDOUBTEDLY GO ALONG. AS FORECAST BY EMBASSY ANKARA, (REFTEL C), THIS PROBABLY DEPENDS TO LARGE EXTENT ON PROGRESS IN LOCAL NEGOTIATIONS.

6. CLEARER PICTURE SHOULD EMERGE FOLLOWING CLERIDES-MAKARIOS-KARAMANLIS MEETING IN ATHENS NEXT WEEK. IT STRIKES US AS IMPORTANT TO GET GOG ON BOARD FOR NON-CONTROVERSIAL RENEWAL BEFORE "SUMMIT" TO CURB MAKARIOS BEFORE HE MOVES TOO FAR IN PLANNING

CYPRUS SC STRATEGY.
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